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Patent Docket P2830P1C66

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Kevin P. Baker et al. Examiner: Not yet assigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Serial No.: 10/017306

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addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on Filed: 12/13/2001

fatricia Terrill

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

## In the specification:

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

## -- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/946374 filed 9/4/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/04342 filed 2/18/2000, which is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/403297 filed 10/18/1999, now abandoned, which is the